

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

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1. (withdrawn): A calcium tartrate composition comprising particles having a mean particle size less than about 30  $\mu\text{m}$ .

2. (withdrawn): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the mean particle size is less than about 25  $\mu\text{m}$ .

3. (withdrawn): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the mean particle size is less than about 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .

4. (withdrawn): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the mean particle size is less than about 18  $\mu\text{m}$ .

5. (withdrawn): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the mean particle size is less than about 15  $\mu\text{m}$ .

6. (withdrawn): The composition of claim 1, wherein less than 5% of particles have a particle size greater than about 40  $\mu\text{m}$ .

7. (withdrawn): The composition of claim 6, wherein less than 1% of particles have a particle size greater than about 40  $\mu\text{m}$ .

8. (withdrawn): The composition of claim 6, wherein less than 0.1% of particles have a particle size greater than about 40  $\mu\text{m}$ .

9. (withdrawn): A method for preparing a calcium tartrate composition comprising particles having a mean particle size less than about 30  $\mu\text{m}$ , comprising the following steps:

submitting maleic acid to an enzymatic catalytic epoxidation thereby obtaining cis-epoxysuccinate,

submitting said cis-epoxysuccinate to the action of an epoxide hydrolase thereby producing L-tartaric acid;

precipitating said L-tartaric acid with  $\text{CaCl}_2$  thereby obtaining calcium tartrate crystals; and

recovering the calcium tartrate crystals to obtain a calcium tartrate composition.

10. (withdrawn): The method of claim 9, wherein said L-tartaric acid is precipitated by adding an equimolar amount of  $\text{CaCl}_2$ .

11. (withdrawn): The method of claim 9 further comprising drying and grinding said recovered calcium tartrate crystals.

12. (currently amended): A plaster composition comprising ~~the composition of claim 1~~ calcium tartrate particles having a mean particle size less than about 30  $\mu\text{m}$ .

13. (currently amended): A powder comprising ~~the composition of claim 1~~ calcium tartrate particles having a mean particle size less than about 30  $\mu\text{m}$ , wherein the powder is selected from the group consisting of cement, mortar, and concrete.

14. (withdrawn): A method for preparing a calcium tartrate composition comprising particles having a mean particle size less than about 18  $\mu\text{m}$ , comprising the following steps:

submitting maleic acid to an enzymatic catalytic epoxidation thereby obtaining cis-epoxysuccinate,

submitting said cis-epoxysuccinate to the action of an epoxide hydrolase thereby producing L-tartaric acid;

precipitating said L-tartaric acid with  $\text{CaCl}_2$  thereby obtaining calcium tartrate crystals; and

recovering the calcium tartrate crystals to obtain a calcium tartrate composition.

15. (withdrawn): The method of claim 14, wherein said L-tartaric acid is precipitated by adding an equimolar amount of  $\text{CaCl}_2$ .

16. (withdrawn): The method of claim 14 further comprising drying and grinding said recovered calcium tartrate crystals.

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17. (currently amended): A plaster composition comprising ~~the composition of~~  
claim 4 calcium tartrate particles having a mean particle size less than about 18  $\mu$ m.

18. (currently amended): A powder comprising ~~the composition of claim 4~~  
calcium tartrate particles having a mean particle size less than about 18  $\mu$ m, wherein  
the powder is selected from the group consisting of cement, mortar, and concrete.

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